

circulated among you as a memorandum, and it seems to me that the attorney general under a law passed by the General Assembly last year is doing exactly what the debate indicated we all wanted, the protection and education of the citizens of the State against harmful and unfair practices.

You will note in the memorandum that was circulated that the functions of the new division can be grouped in four major categories: mediation, education, legislation, and investigation.

The agency or division of the attorney general's office has already received 1500 citizen complaints and has been successful in obtaining refunds totalling some \$40,000. It seems to me in the short time that this division of the attorney general's office has been in existence it has accomplished quite a bit of what we all want; therefore, I feel to use words that have been used so frequently here and so often, this is surplus language. It is true that it may appear to the public that we are favoring consumer protection in that we are putting this in to sweeten the constitution. I do not think a constitution needs to be sweetened. I think it should be a broad and flexible document written so that it accomplishes what we all want.

We have consumer protection on a federal level without any provisions within the federal Constitution. Therefore, I would urge you to vote against including this provision in the constitution of 1968.

THE PRESIDENT: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the committee recommendation?

Delegate Bard.

DELEGATE BARD: Mr. President, I should like to speak in favor of the committee recommendation.

I will not make a long presentation, because I thought that we had debated this issue. We have talked about the pros and cons; we have dealt with it fairly; we have had a vote on the basis of a good deal of deliberation, and if we are going to open up each issue that has been discussed on the floor in the fair way that we have set forth in the Committee of the Whole, we are absolutely lost.

There is no point in elaborating on all of the issues as we discussed them. It was made perfectly clear that this went beyond the whole point of legislation.

The mere fact that we are proceeding in this area, not only in recapitulating, because

this is not the time to do it. I hope this will not be a reversal so we will have to go back to recapitulate and redebate the issues as they come before the Convention as a whole. We have not done this, and if we start this, there is something like ten other areas, and then we will certainly be here beyond March.

THE PRESIDENT: Does any other delegate desire to speak against the recommendation?

Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. Chairman, I have the pleasure of moving the previous question.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there a second?

(The motion was duly seconded.)

THE PRESIDENT: All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; contrary, No. The Ayes have it. It is so ordered.

The question arises on the —

DELEGATE KOGER: I wanted to ask a question, but I understand from the gallery I cannot ask you a question.

THE PRESIDENT: Is it a parliamentary inquiry?

DELEGATE KOGER: Is the passage of this or acceptance —

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Koger, hold your microphone close to your mouth, because I am having trouble hearing you.

DELEGATE KOGER: All right.

What I wanted to find out, is whether if we pass the motion of Delegate Gallagher, that means we cannot speak for this bill?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Delegate Gallagher's motion has already been adopted. That cuts off debate.

The question arises on approval of the committee recommendation.

DELEGATE KOGER: Do we get another opportunity?

THE PRESIDENT: On third reading, if it survives that long.

DELEGATE KOGER: All right.

THE PRESIDENT: The question arises on the adoption of Committee Recommendation GP-4.

A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the recommendation. A vote No is a vote against.